

LESSON 113

EMPEROR

LESSON 113

THE EMPEROR

The Emperor is the typical archetype of the Father figure. Where the Empress is Maternal the Emperor is paternal which shows he can exert merciful tendencies as well as aggressive ones. The power of this trump is easily understood when one finds that it is placed on the path of Aries, between Uranus and the Sun which is an incredibly powerful combination of energy change. In fact it is growth personified and reinforced to an unprecedented degree. He is the figure of supreme authority, the Emperor/Priest, of both material and spiritual matters. This is emphasised by the path he is on coming through the Abyss with Divine authority and able to centralise itself in the heart of Tiphareth, the central hub of the Kabbalistic universe.

In many of the earlier cards the Emperor was often depicted as the bearded monarch in profile which also fits the association to Kether as the supreme ruler. The Golden Dawn departed from this theme as the 15th Path actually joins Chokmah, not Kether and as such the profile theme does not entirely fit the Kabbalistic concept of the Macroprosopus or Vast Countenance, but does apply to the Father which is associated to Chokmah. The subtle point of difference between the two concepts, when brought down to a simplified explanation is that the monarch in profile is the spirit from its position almost at a point beyond normal comprehension, while the Golden Dawn version shows an office representing these traits only, which will last only as long as the office does and hence shows the mortality and limitedness of the Emperor.

The title given to the Emperor is 'Sun of the Morning, Chief among the Mighty'. This alludes to his dominant position in the world, likened to that of the rising Sun which gives light and warmth to all. As chief among the mighty it also relates to the Sun being the dominant force which all the other planets revolve in orbit around. In short, he now becomes the centre of the earthly universe.

The three pointed crown of the Emperor shows the Kabbalistic Supernal, a complete unit in itself that is to a certain extent unmanifested, yet in a source for further nourishment to the lower part of the Tree. This is further enforced by the triangular line of the three spheres - two on the throne and one held in the hand which shows the tip of the Supernal. The ram at the Emperor's feet is creative energy, solar power, with the horns

representing thunder. Also considering the Christian viewpoint the lamb shows spiritual direction under the guidance of the leader of the flock, the Emperor. The orb with a cross mounted on it not only stands for royalty but a Christ Like ruler at his peak. The sceptre he holds in his right hand, mounted with a rams head shows masculine generative power - the phallus; transmission of energies from beyond.

The background colour of the card is a translucent Dull Violet of the Queen Scale. The skin of the Emperor is a translucent Blood Red. The headress on the crown is Peacock Green, the complementary colour of the King Scale. The crown, orb and cross and two spheres mounted on the throne are Olive Yellow, the complementary colour of the Queen Scale. The Wand that the Emperor holds is in the colour of the King Scale as is the outer cloak and ram. The inner garment is Pistachio Green, the complementary colour of the Prince Scale. The throne itself and the floor are the Greyish Magneto of the Princess Scale.

The psychological mode of consciousness that the Emperor represents is willed action. Here we have an example of the will of the Emperor being forced into a framework of action through self assertion. Since the action is but a motivation of the will this must be the primary force of consideration. The Emperor is a bold individual who has the power and reserve to back up his desires. The term 'iron will' is a good example of his psychological makeup. He will often run rough-shod over those individuals who stand in his way and care little about the consequences. Although his attitude is cavalier in approach do not be deceived by his outward show of bravado, for beneath it lies a very dedicated individual who is used to winning. He seeks new ideas and conquests constantly from some deep inert need that cannot be quenched. Due to his make-up, he cannot stop what he has begun and must finish and then go off again on a new adventure almost as soon as the old one has finished for there is no finish for him, just a long line of battles. In many ways he has the make-up of a young adolescent who is continually fascinated by the 'new' of everything though his power is far greater than his psyche can handle.

In the alchemical symbolism of this card, the Emperor represents the male metallic principle and strongly personifies it. Pertenty says: 'The Adepts draw their steel from the belly of Aries and they also call this steel their loadstone.' The Emperor is also depicted in some packs as having the symbols of Combustible oil on one hand and the Spirit of Sulphur on the other. This shows the alchemical King (or Emperor) can also be related to the water process and can be reborn after the Yellowing Stage. The Combustible Oil and Sulphur also stand for the primitive state of development and when joined with Salt then produces

Sulphur of the Wise. Because of this the individual stands for one transformed and made new, who in turn makes other things new. Khunrath describes the King (Emperor) as 'Procreation of the Preserver and Saviour of the Macrocosm and Microcosm. The word has become flesh, and spirit of God has revealed himself in body - thus the son of the Macrocosm'. This shows the Christ likeness further portrayed by the lamb/ram at his feet, the Agnus Dei. 'Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the World'.

The number four is associated to this card and of this Westcott says: 'The Pythagoreans, said Nicomachus, call the number four "the greatest miracle", "a God after another manner," "a manifold divinity", the "fountain of Nature", and its "Key bearer". It is the introducer and cause of the permanency of the Mathematical discipline." It is "most masculine " and "robust"; Hercules and Aeolus.'

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#### DIVINATION

ON MATTERS OF Selfhood; Self Projection; new ideas; new beginnings; reactions to outside stimuli; the life force; first encounters:

The key impetus for the Emperor in this position is primal power. On a large scale countries/governments etc must take responsibility for their actions. The Emperor here can represent a powerful country or group of nations. The direction to take (being taken) is to force resources into a framework that will benefit all. What is forming is a competitive approach to life where one must excel in everything - proof through the results of ones actions. On a personal note however the Emperor represents a very energetic, powerful and vital person whose decisiveness is magnified by some impulsive behaviour. Time should not be wasted but used to maximum when the Emperor turns up here.

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce, personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

Assertion is the key impetus here for the Emperor. On a large scale ones country/environment asserts its principles and values on one. There is a desire to have power and the Emperor is a leader of a group. Overall profit is expected even under

adverse conditions. What forms is self assertion, political ambitions and business/financial ambition. A business may be set up - the employed becomes the employer - successful planning. On a personal note symbols of power are money and material possessions as well as how many people one can dominate. Self discipline and domination of ones personal life are depicted by the Emperor who advises one to push forward with whatever resources you have.

ON MATTERS OF short journeys; communications; relationships; brothers, sisters, neighbours; humour; identity; early education; books; correspondence; enlarging ones field of activity:

The key impetus for the Emperor here is to be original. Individual originality alone provides a sense of freedom and confidence within ones cosmic confines. On a large scale the Emperor shows the dictator or a chosen leader who gives communication to the masses, or the archetypal father image in a teacher or elder brother, who passes on knowledge. This card shows adeptness in communication and dominance of the mental plane. Exams are passed and recognition received. You may have to go and see someone in a position of authority. Solidifying education in the young builds a strong future. The lesson to learn here is to focus one thoughts.

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; parents; security; emotions; significant shifts in lifes directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

The Emperor here shows one to have a sense of purpose in ones actions, or way of life. On a large scale he shows patriotism. He is an owner of property and means to add more to his holdings. As a father his role is dominant but merciful. As an individual he is emotionally strong and may be starting on an inner journey to discover untapped energy and resources. The base of ones operations may be from home and there is a deep dedication to home, family and country. On a negative side this card shows an overbearing, overruling, overdominant person.

ON MATTERS OF love given; creativity of selfhood; the creative will; children; entertainment; recreation; speculation; sports; the arts; gambling; fulfilling potentiality:

The Emperor in this position shows a constant flow of creative energy and one will receive inspiration from this area of life. He represents an extremely competitive situation, which is the key impetus here, and shows a person or something as the

centre of attention. Under the above matters he shows success and fulfilment. On matters of love, this person is ardent in his affections. Possibly reckless speculation can cause loss of respectability. The general emphasis is domination of ones affairs and any interrelating aspect thereof.

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment; employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; ones sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology:

Here the Emperor's key impetus is to motivate, the self and anyone or anything that comes into contact. On a large scale the Emperor shows the use of will and energy to serve mankind. This shows someone placed in a position of control, but is also a position to serve all and sundry. Dedication and energy will have to be applied if you want success in your job. Overall, the above matters dominate your attention and energy, and can, if you are not careful, take over your life. A little power is a dangerous thing, and with the Emperor here one is better off serving than ruling.

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party; competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

The key impetus of the Emperor here is to conquer. The Emperor shows a taming of adverse forces (i.e. adversaries); there is no law of compensation, obey or be struck down; competitors will be overcome. The Emperor here advises one to place original documents into a safe place as one may fall into strife through recklessness. One may be forced into a marriage/partnership, or be in a situation where they get swept along in a whirlwind by a more dominant personality. This card also shows skill in public relations, and a potential mate.

ON MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

Here the Emperor shows a form of blind energy. On a large scale there may be a conquest before a fight or a declaration of war. Matters may get out of your control, whether external or internal battles are to be fought, and punishment is imposed. The Emperor here represents someone who mispends the resources

of others, someone who is over dominant in a partnership and thereby destroying what was good. On a more positive note he shows someone in the centre of activities, represented under the above matters. Overall, there is a tendency to disorder. Attempts to control the non-material end in collapse.

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

The key impetus for the Emperor in this position is to stabilize the disorder caused in the earlier position which now forms into some sort of cohesive structure. On a large scale he shows an over-ruling of group thought and pushes ahead to be heard above the masses. There is an establishment and stability here of some sort of educational structure. The sciences and agriculture come to the foreground of attention. Legal systems and standards of morality are set up, old systems are judged and improved on. Lawsuits are cleared up without dispute. Overall, the Emperor here shows a reforming of old systems and the creating of a new stability. However, the Emperor is also the wanderer conquering greener pastures.

ON MATTERS OF public honour; status; ambitions and goals reached; achievements; profession; the other parent; causes for disgrace; recognition; identity:

The key impetus for the Emperor here is leadership. One may encounter a figure of authority. On a large scale he represents autonomy. The Emperor depicts promotion and prosperity; he is the wielder of initiative but can also be unyielding. The lesson to be learnt here is how to use power wisely. The card shows an archetypal father figure playing a dominant role in ones psyche whether he represents an external physical influence or a psychological need. There is a tendency to have a lack of patience towards the pace of ones progress and those that affect it. Professional prominence is attained through competition.

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; ones attitude; group activities; government, counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfilment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

The Emperor in this position is best described as someone who rules with an iron hand, and on a large scale he represents the governmental guidance of a country. Political debates, the

passing of law and setting up of a valued structure takes place in groups, organisations and governmental agencies. Goals are achieved with the help of others. A person of individual ideals may attract a following. This is a position of individualism, for the Emperor, in a crowd operates on two levels. The first is bending the crowd's will to that of the individual while the second is the exact opposite. True friends are far and few between. The lesson here is to be complete as one alone before being part of a whole.

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden resources; the unconscious; sorrow; health afflictions; secret enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:

The Emperor here, dictates acceptance and adherence to the cosmic law or you shall meet your own judgement. He represents deep involvement in secret societies whose role is a motivator. In this position the Emperor shows a completion of projects. A choice must be made as to which of the three paths one is to walk and whether to serve or rule together with another. Here the Emperor prepares a neutral ground to do battle in and makes secret strategical plans. He alludes to karmic preparation, which could be described as a chess game in play without an outcome defined. He is both the builder and the destroyer, for anything without a solid foundation is crumpled to make way for something stronger.

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MEDITATION ON THE EMPEROR:

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then study each detail: Each symbol and image. Study the colours. Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations. Write down your overall impression.

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#### exercise

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.

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LESSON 114

HIEROPHANT

LESSON 114

HIEROPHANT

The Hierophant is archetypal figure of the Father Confessor. He is the institutionalised rock of spiritual teaching that has extended its framework into the very seeds of government. In the Order, the Hierophant 'being a member of the Second Order and therefore initiated into the secret knowledge of the symbolism'. The old title of this card was the "Pope", by changing the title a very subtle shift in meaning then occurs. The original meaning of "Pope" was "Father" where the Hierophant means "revealer of sacred things". The actual drawing of the figure in the card is in fact an amalgamation of the two. While under the old meaning one is an open institution, the new meaning is that it is more hidden in context. The old meaning represented the old dogma of the church, unchanged for many centuries while the Hierophant now brings about hidden changes within the system by revealing things to the initiated. This in fact opens the door to newer more flexible teachings which are to a certain extent more personalised in the latter than the former. Blind obedience has fallen way to personal illumination under the guidance of the Inner Sanctum of the self. The old meaning of Pontiff was also called "bridgemaker", from the Latin "pontifex" which in many respects is identical to that of the Hierophant, so in some ways the Hierophant does overlap with the "Pope".

The bulls' heads on the throne show a masculine force, strength and power, as "bull" in Hebrew means Johveh or YHVH, a balanced spectrum of ideals without change. The crook in the hand of the Hierophant not only shows the aspect of power associated to the supernatural (Magus etc) and the Christian aspect of the Crook of the shepherd of the flock but is also shaped like the Hebrew letter Vau, which is associated to this card. The triple crown shows the divine trinity (the three persons in the one God). The crown in fact radiates its energies through the four elements (both corporeal and incorporeal) shown on each side of the face (the tassles of the crown). The scroll he holds is the temple warrant, his sign or communica of the doctrine beyond the veil. The ring he wears has on it the seal of the R.R. et A.C., the Second Order of the Golden Dawn. His broach or clasp is shaped like and represents the astrological sign of the Sun. This shows the life giving warmth and power that brings light (illumination) and comfort to the darkness. The curtain behind the throne has nine clasps which represent Yesod the Sephira of which the Moon is associated, and the moon exalted in Taurus, the astrological sign associated to this card.

The colouring of the robe of the Hierophant, the background behind the veil, the crook and triple crown are the Flame Red of the King Scale which shows the Atziluth nature of the power source. The edge of the robe and the support and crosses of the crown are in the complementary blue of the King Scale. This shows the receptive nature of his powers which are essentially pure and spiritual. The Porcelain Blue of the Queen Scale is the colour of the Hierophant's under-robe which relates to the creativity of his power. The colour of his skin is a translucent Porcelain Blue as is the rod supporting the curtain. The colouring of the curtain itself and that of the floor in front of the throne is the Sepia Brown of the Prince Scale. The curtain actually incorporates the translucent aspect of Sepia Brown with the darker colour being the shadows of the folds in the curtain. This shows the nature of the veil which fluctuates according to the nature of those trying to pierce its mysteries. The throne of the Hierophant is the Deep Grey Green of the Princess Scale with translucent shading emphasized on the skulls of the bulls, and they portray the foundation on which the throne is built. The Temple Warrant is White, showing the divine nature of its power. The ring on the Hierophant's finger is gold and relates to power from the Tiphareth centre.

The hidden geometric symbol in this card is the square within the triangle. The square being the temple warrant and the base of the triangle being formed by the triangle of the two bulls heads, with the solar broach being its apex. This shows the intellect or will confining matter. It implies restraint and thinking before acting and the limitation of earthly desires.

The psychological approach this card represents is the conservative side of things. Here, a great many things are hidden beneath the surface which take a great deal of time to digest, hence the attribution of slowness associated here as well. During this gestation period nothing on the surface appears to change, hence its fixed association. The Hierophant derives his power from beyond the veil so the details of his communications with the hidden guardians are unknown to us. The Hierophant in many ways represents the establishment, on the outer level and will only communicate to us what he thinks we should know. Any movement or change incorporated by the Hierophant is done with a great deal of thought and reason. He is the typical slow growth factor but this is always done from a very powerful base. On the negative side of things he is stubborn and self possessive. To himself and to many who follow him (in the extreme) he is the pseudo Messiah of his beliefs and he expects others to follow him in his infallibility.

The title of this card is 'Magus of the Eternal Gods'. This

relates to the Hiero being an instrument of the Gods, the hidden powers beyond the veil. He is their representative for good or evil, depending on the circumstances.

The alchemical meaning of this card shows that the Bulls' heads on the throne are analogous to Taurus the second month which also represents the second stage of the Great Work. Since the Bull is sacred to the Sun it represents sulphur, the male principle which is ascribed by Hermes as the originator and Father of the Stone. Since this is still a primitive aspect of the work, the whole card shows sulphur in its secondary state, before the conjunction.

The numerological association to this card is number 5. Levi says: 'The Quinary is the number of religion, for it is the number of god united to that of woman...Let us pray in silence; let us raise towards our unknown Father a look of confidence and of love; let us accept with faith and resignation the part which He assigns to us the toils of life, and every throb of our hearts will be a word of prayer.'

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#### DIVINATION

ON MATTERS OF Selfhood; Self Projection; new ideas; new beginnings; reactions to outside stimuli; the life force; first encounters:

The key impetus here for the Hierophant is expression of power potential. This is generally done through structuring ones surroundings, ones material resources. The Hierophant shows a character projection of mercy, patience, goodness and stubbornness. He represents a personage or structure that is inspirational to others - a person will receive inspiration. You may, however, have recourse to a man, or organisation if you receive this card here, or, you may feel others expect you to be infallible. However, the Hierophant also shows that one is given a warrant, or permission to go ahead with some project. A personal need for material power is evident.

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce, personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

The key impetus for the Hierophant here is originality. Money is earned through the originality of ideas and the practical application of such ideas. Financial outlets may be many (large organisations). What is forming is slow but sure growth. The Hierophant in this position shows an individual who is very determined towards affairs in the above matters, is possessive and stubborn. Once a goal is set there is little or no deviation from it - it in fact becomes a whole way of life. A strong sense of loyalty is applied to all personal dealings although one may become burdened with obligations.

ON MATTERS OF short journeys; communications; relationships; brothers, sisters, neighbours; humour; identity; early education; books; correspondence; enlarging ones field of activity:

The key impetus for the Hierophant here is to teach. Help is given by superiors, opinions and feelings are shared. There is aesthetic communication. Travel is not depicted here by the Hierophant in this house position. He shows an individual who is set in his ways and is not easy to communicate with unless you work along his own mode of thinking. As a teacher he may not necessarily be one from an educational institution but can be a brother, neighbour or husband etc. His lessons are ones of mastery over physical matter.

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; parents; security; emotions; significant shifts in lifes directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

The key impetus for the Hierophant here is to voluntarily invoke. He depicts voluntary invocation of occult forces and a connection to guiding forces. He advises caution under the above matter and suggests conservatism. A strong desire to build a foundation to ones life portrays a need for security. He shows one very territorial and protective of ones home. When enquiring whether a situation will change, this card shows that matters will remain the same. This is a time for assimilation of experiences; a stable and solid home life (background) and advises one to spend more time with nature which will strengthen (heal) one. Dedication to family.

ON MATTERS OF love given; creativity of selfhood; the creative will; children; entertainment; recreation; speculation; sports; the arts; gambling; fulfilling potentiality:

The key impetus for the Hierophant in this position is

endurance. He shows that a creative outlet has been provided. There is alertness to opportunities but cautiousness in speculations is advised. The Hierophant shows endurance in physical activities but a disposition towards self indulgence in matters of pleasure. He shows an analytical thinker and a perfectionist. There is a close scrutiny of a person or object regarding its quality. Also there appears to be a fondness towards luxury and power with a determination in affairs under the above matters and an overpowering influence in love affairs. On a higher note the Hierophant shows an inner peace as if one has found what one is searching for.

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment; employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; ones sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology;

Loyal, methodical workers and experts in their respective fields are shown here by the Hierophant, and relates to people who are able to work in harmony with others. Through ones employment there is financial success. The Hierophant represents the working institution; the corporation or a large body within which one works best. In many respects the Hierophant indicates the steady long term job prospect as well as an individual who finds that he has extreme loyalties to the company he works for. On the negative side of the coin there are also indications of overwork which could result in problems with health and home, but this of course depends on the surrounding cards. On the whole the Hierophant in this position shows steady employment and job prospects in a good working environment.

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party; competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

In this position, the Hierophant shows a stubborn partner who is very fixed in attitude and ideals. He indicates marriage and stability, and on a large scale an alliance - harmony through mutual respect. It is a situation where one enters an establishment. Long term goals over lengthy periods of time are indicated here. The fixed aspect shows that things do not come easy as hard work is indicated here. A certain amount of sacrifice is indicated for the sake of harmony. The key impetus here is sacrifice of ones individuality. He also depicts inner contentment. Karmically one must work on internal harmony.

ON MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

The key impetus for the Hierophant in this position is spiritual truth. Those that strive for spiritual truth apply their energies practically, either in material matters or in devotion to the Great Work. The Hierophant represents the comfort, or light into that which appears to be darkness. However he also shows captivity and confinement to structure and form. This sort of confinement is necessary in order to develop, and without which ones energies scatter and become of little use. Through restriction one is forced to face one point at a time. Gain is shown through a partner's resources although affairs will take a little time to actualise.

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

Here the Hierophant represents an institutionalised rock of spiritual teaching that has extended its framework into the very seeds of government. He is associated with a spiritual figure that may have some influence on ones life. Religious and Kabalistic studies are depicted here. He also shows dogma, set views, defined limitations under the above matters and the values of society play a large role in ones thinking. On the negative side of things, one becomes obsessive with occult, religious or hermetic experiences. There is also slow but steady advancement of the Great Work on all levels of society. Instead of this type of work taking a back seat to other events one finds with the Hierophant that the exact opposite occurs.

ON MATTERS OF public honour; status; ambitions and goals reached; achievements; profession; the other parent; causes for disgrace; recognition; identity:

The Hierophant in this position shows divine wisdom. He represents the builders of all forms both materially and mentally as well as creative expression and status power. There is a clinging to old structures and protectiveness towards ones position in life. The Hierophant shows one in a pursuit of a growing career, adeptness in administration and organisation. Also under the above matters ones affairs are set in order. The negative aspects here show the autocrat who rules with absolute authority based on the concept of divine motivation for he feels he cannot

err. Problems could occur through being too harsh on those under you and this must be carefully watched. On matters of the home it shows the father ruling with an iron hand which could give rise to problems in the home or the developing psyche.

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; ones attitude; group activities; government, counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfilment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

Rigid ideals, conventions and traditions are shown by the Hierophant in this position. Wealthy friends may influence your direction in life through their support. The Hierophant here shows a stable income and realistic goals being set which are within ones reach. All forms of groups or organisations are shown to have a solid backing (foundation), and to have set rules and regulations. It also may show you entering some form of occult, hermetic or religious activity as a leader or potential leader. There may be the forming of a strong occult group. There also appears to be some sort of a stand indicated with the moral aspects of the law whether for good or evil, depending on the surrounding cards.

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden resources; the unconscious; sorrow; - health afflictions; secret enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:

The key impetus here for the Hierophant is prayer and he represents the secret doctrines and the hidden knowledge - work towards unveiling the secret mysteries. On a more personal note one may institutionalize oneself. There is a tendency to accept matters with faith and resign to the toil of life. Illnesses are shown to be in the throat area. The thyroid, thymus, parathyroids etc. How this card could effect one under the above matters depends entirely on how one approached life in the past - materialistically or otherwise. The Hierophant here shows the helping and taking charge of helping others who are in dire need, from an individuals viewpoint, that of some welfare organisation. This card also shows the gathering together or helping of people through organisations.

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MEDITATION ON THE HIEROPHANT:

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then

study each detail: Each symbol and image. Study the colours.
Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations.
Write down your overall impression.

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exercise

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An  
outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.

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LESSON 115

LOVERS

LESSON 115

THE LOVERS

The key words represented by this card are 'unification' and 'opposites'. The Golden Dawn version of this trump is a radical departure from the standard European designs, the main point of difference not being the union itself but the way in which the union was attained. The other versions of this trump show only the end result, giving no indication of what one has to face to attain this result. The Golden Dawn version goes a step further by drawing the trump to the myth of Andromeda. The legend has many variations but the essence is that Andromeda, daughter of Cepheus, King of Ethiopia and Cassiopeia was so beautiful that Neptune sent Cetus, the sea monster to destroy the kingdom of Cepheus unless he offered up his daughter as a sacrifice. Andromeda was chained to the rock but just before Cetus was able to devour her she was released by Perseus who was flying through the air. He slew the monster by turning it into stone (with Medusa's head) and carried off Andromeda as his bride. One could say that all the trials and tribulations of love won in the end were for far greater rewards than originally bargained for.

The emblem of the Sun on Perseus's shield depicts higher spiritual principles and relates to the 12 lettered name of God (according to Mathers from an unpublished lecture on the subject) Hih-HvvH-Vihih which means 'He was, is, will be'. In many ways this is analogous to the brightness of Kether for the shield of Perseus was the one that reflected the image of the Medusa, whom he killed in a previous battle. The shield also relates to the immortality of Perseus and of the karmic pattern of destiny. He is one who uses this power for the benefit of others, his love for Andromeda being his driving force. The sea below shows the tides of advancement and withdrawal as well as the state of chaos, the unrevealed, and it is from here the monster/dragon emerges from its depths.

The sword held here by Perseus is highly significant, for it relates very closely with the Hebrew letter associated to this card, Zain (the sword), for the object of Perseus is penetration resulting in the release of Andromeda. The maiden chained to the rock shows the struggle for freedom - obtained only after considerable anguish and effort before the nightmare is finished. The rock which she is chained to represents the prison that has held her which in turn also represents her lifestyle which was very limited to her royal duties.

The background colour of the sky is the Persian Orange of the King Scale as is Andromeda (the colour applied here is translucent) and the dragon. Andromeda represents the virginal aspect while the dragon is in fact a dual aspect of her own nature. The Emblem of the shield is also in the colour of the King Scale for it shows the divine presence. The skin of Perseus is translucent blue (complementary of the translucent Persian Orange) and represents the emotional nature of the impending battle. The shield and clouds from which Perseus emerges are the complementary blue of the King Scale. The armour, sword and helmet are the Cinnamon Brown of the Prince Scale showing the airy part of his nature. The sea is coloured in the Greyish Red of the Queen Scale which relates to its watery nature. The rock on which Andromeda is chained is Mahogany Brown of the Princess Scale and relates to the deep earthy nature of her captivity.

The title given to this card is 'Children of the Voice; the oracles of the Mighty Gods'. This relates to both Perseus and Andromeda being under the divine guidance of the gods, who through their actions become established as constellations resulting in being the 'oracles' in question.

The psychological aspect of this card shows the perceptive insight of how to connect or link the opposite sides of ones nature into a firm bonding. In many respects there is also an immature quality here as impetuosity is indicated as part of ones character traits. It shows the Lovers as being a card that represents creativity and continually striving for par excellence. The Lovers also represents a multifaceted character that may be more than a little schizophrenic when the negative tendencies are brought to bear. Other aspects such as hebephrenia, paranoia, catatonia and paraphrenia can occur here as well but only at the far end of the negative side of things. In many respects while there is a disassociation complex linked to this card there is also a cathexis state as well. The individual here is the preparer of the way for the others to take over from. In many ways this person is the pioneer builder, the grower. Here we have the androgeny, as a concept of personality which shows balance and stability.

In alchemical terms Andromeda is the Primea Materia of water - the Aqua Materia. She is chained to the rock which in reality is the Stone, which has its base in water. Actually Andromeda is part of the Stone, the hidden pure essence that is a prisoner. Perseus, who is about to rescue her, is in fact Fire, shown by the emblem on his shield. The alchemical text the 'Rosarium' says, when describing this alchemical concept: 'This is the fiery form of the true water'. Ripley also says: 'The ariel soul is the secret fire of our philosophy, our oil, our mystic water,' a sentence that can easily be applied to this card and its contents.

The Stone is about to yield its most precious soul, the Anima, which is Andromeda. A number of alchemical texts written over the centuries have often stated that though fire and water are antagonists they are in essence still the same, this can only be understood correctly from a thorough grounding in the work. Here, Andromeda is about to be devoured by the dragon, a symbol of Simple Water (Philosophers Mercury). In short, this card shows the self fertilization aspect of the union of the Fire and the Aqua Materia - the Mercurial Dragon.

The number associated to the card is 6. Of this Nichomachus says: 'The form of form, the only number adapted to the Soul, the instinctual union of the parts of the universe, the fabricator of the Soul, also a Harmony'. Westcott also says of the Hexad: 'As to a "Marriage," it is a number equal to its parts, and marriage is a ceremony to sanction the production of offspring similar to the parent.' Levi possibly has the best quote of all that relates directly to this card: 'The Senary(6) is the number by ordeal; it is the number of equilibrium, it is the hieroglyph of the knowledge of Good and Evil.'

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#### DIVINATION

ON MATTERS OF Selfhood; Self Projection; new ideas; new beginnings; reactions to outside stimuli; the life force; first encounters:

In this position the Lovers shows a person or persons heavily committed to a project or some form of life due to anothers influence. This commitment gives these types of people a sense of imprisonment, a drowning feeling with no way out. Hence they yearn for something or someone to come along and release them from their bondage, which in fact is exactly what will happen, just in time. So don't despair, someone or something will come by and save you from your ordeal. On an internal level the intellect takes hold of ones emotions and brings clarity into a situation. This card shows obstruction to new beginnings.

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce, personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

Under the above matters the Lovers shows that one may be in

a precarious situation financially, and may tend to loose ones assets through neglect to provide for a way out of a possible situation. You may have the Inland Revenue Department in hot pursuit, or through vanity and attempting to 'do it alone' put oneself in debt to another, a finance company or organisation who are now applying the pressure. On a personal note this card shows it is ones own greed (negativity) that is putting the pressure on one. However the lovers shows that another person or company, or even a change of attitude will bail you out. If you join forces with that element you will not look back.

ON MATTERS OF short journeys; communications; relationships; brothers, sisters, neighbours; humour; identity; early education; books; correspondence; enlarging ones field of activity:

The Lovers in this position shows help and guidance given by brothers, sisters, relatives or neighbours, or perhaps it is you who helps them. Whoever it is there is always someone who will help during the bad times. In areas of education one will achieve what there is to be achieved with external help although there is a threat of failure or an area of temptation to diverse. In matters of travel, for women there will be restriction, but for men there will be forced short trips with unexpected diversions due to the misfortunes or mishandling of others. Women will find commitments (responsibilities) both mental and external that will prevent them from enlarging their field of activity; men will be diverted from their tasks to aid another, who may become or be a lasting friend.

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; parents; security; emotions; significant shifts in lifes directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

The Lovers in this position shows that one must release ones emotions into a conscious level, then draw from ones intellect and rationalize. Only then will you be free from emotional turmoil and anxiety, but only after anguish and effort. Women will find themselves in bondage (in modern times this is generally considered a state of mind rather than physical circumstances) or in a suffocating situation where circumstances prevent them from expressing themselves as individuals, that they cannot escape from. For some, their release from daily monotony is through their partner's activities. For others, release comes through learning by example, and freedom comes through state of mind. This card shows that a way is being prepared for you to act on your karmic destiny. It also shows a lasting union between body and soul; man and woman; purpose and

direction (destiny).

ON MATTERS OF love given; creativity of selfhood; the creative will; children; entertainment; recreation; speculation; sports; the arts; gambling; fulfilling potentiality:

In this position the Lovers shows that one has been, or is in danger through misadventure, and you have no way out of paying your dues. However, someone or thing may bail you out, just in time, nevertheless this is no excuse to put yourself in a precarious situation. On another note this card shows greater awards than originally bargained for. The lesson here is to obtain the knowledge of what is right and wrong (when to move and when not to move), but an ordeal may be faced before this lesson is learned. On matters of children this card does not imply fertility, but does imply a union of opposites. If one has children you may have to bail one out of strife - possibly a girl. On sport or the arts, teamwork proves to be successful, going it alone does not.

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment: employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; ones sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology:

There is success in teaming up with another, for on your own you may have strife ending up with more than you can handle. Do not be afraid to ask for help, this will readily come. In questions of sickness the Lovers shows recovery, however if negatively aspected there may be psychological problems. There is a need for mobility in ones work environment and a chance to use ones mental ability. You must make your ideas effective in a practical way otherwise ones life remains unchanged. The Lovers here advises that it is of benefit to work where you can use your mind. Health can be a state of mind.

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party; competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

Here the Lovers represents a lasting union even into or from Karmic realms. You may feel that your chosen partner is a soul mate. For women, a marital situation or partnership may have heavy responsibility, feel the burden and threat of chains to fit the bills or pay the dues materially and mentally where the man flies high and free in mind assuming all is well, only helping his

partner when she is in danger. This card also shows a spiritual mirage to a "way" but at the same time one must learn to share and compensate for another's faults within one's own character. Material needs must be left by the wayside if you are to advance.

ON MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

In spiritual matters the Lovers shows divine blessings. This card also shows a person who is well suited to working in areas under the above matters, they are able to remain cool, and detached towards subjects or circumstances that arouse emotions in others. Curiosity is the main impetus here which leads to expectations in both minor and large scale projects. You are advised to protect yourself by buying some sort of insurance. If expecting an inheritance or dividend you can expect some delay. Success through partnerships although you will have to put your share of work into them.

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

The Lovers here shows a progressive, freer thinker who has little patience for those who do not communicate on the same level. Short term travel is depicted with a tendency to seek out the unusual. Journeys happen unexpectedly, you can expect a visitor who may consciously or unconsciously shed some light onto a problem. Exploration takes place more in the mind and astral than the physical; into distant cultures, philosophies, sciences or any subject that wets one's appetite. The key impetus here is a thirst for knowledge. On a larger scale, communication will be received that will shine light into a difficult situation.

ON MATTERS OF public honour; status; ambitions and goals reached; achievements; profession; the other parent; causes for disgrace; recognition; identity:

The Lovers in this position operates in a dual role. Honour is achieved but not publicly. One's status is one's state of mind and the individual is usually the only one recognising their position. How others see you may be entirely different. Professional affairs have, or may, be in a threatened situation which will need an outside element to help. Any restriction felt, in



many instances, is only a state of mind - it is your own mind that can free you, just let go of your emotions. On a larger scale this card shows some group, organisation or nation, visionary in their concepts, and open to inspiration.

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; ones attitude; group activities; government, counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfilment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

The Lovers here shows good fortune for groups; there is no blame if one goes it alone for you can rectify your situation. New and lasting friends are made, old friends return. Groups are reorganised and energetic in their endeavours. The Lovers depicts fraternities, spiritual teaching and chosen paths. This is a time to walk your path and go towards your goal and act out your ideal with another. There is a third factor, however, that will continually challenge you to sway from your destiny. Additionally, there is difficulty in choosing your path or goal, and once chosen, the mind frequently questions the choice. If you remain steadfast, keeping to a higher spiritual principal your direction should run true for you.

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden resources; the unconscious; sorrow; health afflictions; secret enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:

The Lovers in this position shows that unconscious emotional complexes interfere with clear thinking. The lesson to learn is simply to learn to use your mind and rationalize, for your emotions could be your self undoing. On a larger scale the heavens show a process of redemption: analysis, approach and contact, then the giving forth of knowledge. On a more material note the Lovers shows a person clinging to the past, thereby preventing development to the extent that they can swallow themselves whole by their own psyche, lost forever in the depths of their subconscious unless the rational mind, someone or some element intervenes before it is too late.

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MEDITATION ON THE LOVERS:

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then

study each detail: Each symbol and image. Study the colours.
Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations.
Write down your overall impression.

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exercise

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An  
outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.

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